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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Economic - Whaling industry

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspapers

WHERE PUBLISHED USSR

DATE PUBLISHED 1, 6 Sep 1949

LANGUAGE Russian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 22 Nov 1949

NO. OF PAGES 1

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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MARINE ANIMALS FURNISH LEATHER, LIVER, BLUBBER

MARINE ANIMAL SKINS USED AS LEATHER -- Vechernyaya Moskva, No 208, 1 Sep 49

The Scientific Research Institute of the Leather-Footwear Industry in Moscow recently received pieces of whale skin from the "Slava" flotilla, dolphin skin from the Black Sea, and white whale skin from the White Sea. One of the laboratories of the institute is experimenting specifically with the skin of marine animals and fish. It has found a way for industry to use this new raw material for manufacturing footwear and industrial leather. A number of leather and shoe enterprises are already using it.

The workable qualities of these skins of marine animals and the appearance of shoes made from them are not in the least inferior to ordinary leather. Seal-skin is being used for women's shoes, for making suede, and various kinds of leather. Whale skin makes very durable soles. The skin of one whale can, on the average, take the place of the skins of 1,000 bulls, since, being 50 centimeters thick, it spreads out and forms several layers after the blubber is removed.

At present, a special brigade of scientific workers who will go to the place where the animals are caught is being formed.

FAR EAST WHALERS FULFILL 1949 PLAN -- Vechernyaya Moskva, No 212, 6 Sep 49

According to Pravda, the whaling flotilla headed by the mother ship Aleut has been out in the Pacific waters for about 5 months. Thousands of centners of blubber have already been processed in the blubber-reducing shops aboard the Aleut. A great deal of whale liver, a valuable raw material for the vitamin industry, has also been prepared. The Far East whalers fulfilled their 1949 plan on 2 September. During the present season, they have caught over 1,300 whales.

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